

One of the interesting features of the meeting was the exhibition of pictures, thrown on a screen, of living birds taken in their haunts, and of nests in situ, from photographs made by Mr. Henry M. Spelman of Cambridge, Mass., and explained by Mr. William Brewster, who spoke of the great difficulty of obtaining successful results in this class of work.

Resolutions were adopted extending the thanks of the Union to the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution for the use of the lecture hall of the National Museum and for other courtesies tendered to the Union during the session of the Eighth Congress; to the Cosmos Club of Washington for courtesies extended to the visiting members; to the Washington members for their generous hospitalities to the visiting members; and to the retiring President, Dr. Allen, for the efficient and impartial manner in which he had presided over the Union during the seven years since its foundation.

It was voted to hold the next Congress at the American Museum of Natural History in New York City, on the third Tuesday in November, 1891.

THIRD SUPPLEMENT TO THE AMERICAN ORNITHOLOGISTS' UNION CHECK-LIST OF NORTH AMERICAN BIRDS.

BY ORDER of the Council of the American Ornithologists' Union the Committee on Publication has prepared the following report on the species, subspecies, and changes of nomenclature proposed during the year ending November, 1890, to be published as the Third Supplement to the American Ornithologists' Union Check-List.

In accordance with the action of the Council, the Committee in cases of the rejection of proposed changes or additions, gives its reasons for considering them inadmissible.

A few cases are necessarily deferred from lack of the requisite data to enable the Committee to reach satisfactory decisions.

The Council having passed a standing order for the preparation

of an annual Supplement to the Check-List, the Committee, in behalf of its successors, begs to call the attention of describers of species and subspecies to the fact that without their cooperation its work will be in large part futile, since, without having the types, or other authentic material representing the new forms before it, the Committee cannot take the responsibility of giving an opinion upon the claims of such forms to recognition. The Committee therefore respectfully requests that describers of new forms of North American birds will kindly transmit to the Committee, for use at its annual session, such types or other material as will facilitate its work.

The present Supplement consists of I, *Additions*; II, *Eliminations*; III, *Changes of Nomenclature*; IV, *Forms considered as not entitled to Recognition*; V, *Proposed changes of Nomenclature rejected*; VI, *Action deferred from lack of material*; VII, *Species entered in the Check-List as Accidental, but now considered as of regular occurrence*.

The number at the left of the scientific name facilitates collation with the Check-List. The interpolated species and subspecies are numbered in accordance with the provisions made therefor in the Code of Nomenclature. (See page 14, last paragraph.)

Committee
on
Publication.

{ D. G. ELLIOT, *Chairman*.
JOHN H. SAGE, *Secretary*.
J. A. ALLEN.
WILLIAM BREWSTER.
ELLIOTT COUES.
H. W. HENSHAW.
ROBERT RIDGWAY.

I. ADDITIONS.

256 a. **Totanus solitarius cinnamomeus** BREWSTER.
Western Solitary Sandpiper.

Totanus solitarius cinnamomeus BREWSTER, Auk, VII,
Oct. 1890, 377.

[B 541, *part*, C 435, *part*, R 550, *part*, C 637, *part*.]

HAB. Pacific Coast region, eastward to the Plains.

474 h. **Otocoris alpestris adusta** DWIGHT.

Scorched Horned Lark.

Otocoris alpestris adusta DWIGHT, Auk, VII, April, 1890, 148.

[B—, C—, R—, C—.]

HAB. Southern Arizona and New Mexico, Western Texas, and southward into Mexico.

474 *i.* *Otocoris alpestris merrilli* DWIGHT.

Dusky Horned Lark.

Otocoris alpestris merrilli DWIGHT, Auk, VII, April, 1890, 153.

[B—, C—, R—, C—.]

HAB. Eastern Oregon, Washington, and British Columbia, between the Cascade and Rocky Mountains; southward in winter into Nevada and California.

474 *j.* *Otocoris alpestris pallida* TOWNSEND.

Sonoran Horned Lark.

Otocoris alpestris pallida TOWNSEND, Proc. U. S. Nat. Mus., XIII, 1890, 138.

[B—, C—, R—, C—.]

HAB. Lower California and Sonora.

514 *a.* *Coccothraustes vespertinus montanus* (RIDGW.).

Western Evening Grosbeak.

Hesperiphona vespertina var. *montana* RIDGW. in Hist. N. Am. Bds., Land Bds., I, 1874, 449.

Coccothraustes vespertina montana MEARNs, Auk, VII, July, 1890, 246.

[B 303, *part*, C 136, *part*, R 165, *part*, C 189, *part*.]

HAB. Western North America, from the Pacific Coast eastward to the Rocky Mountains; southward over table-land of Mexico.

567 *b.* *Junco hyemalis shufeldti* COALE.

Shufeldt's Junco.

Junco hyemalis shufeldti COALE, Auk, IV, Oct. 1887, 330.

(Cf. CHAPMAN, Bull. Am. Mus. Nat. Hist., III, No. 1, Oct. 1890, 146.)

[B 352, *part*, C 175, *part*, R 218, *part*, C 263, *part*.]

HAB. Western United States, from the Rocky Mountains to the Sierra Nevada and Cascade Range; in winter eastward to Texas, casually to Illinois, Maryland, etc.

568.1. **Junco ridgwayi** MEARNs.

Ridgway's Junco.

Junco ridgwayi MEARNs. Auk, VII, July, 1890, 243.

[B—, C—, R—, C—.]

HAB. Wyoming, Arizona, and New Mexico.

574 b. **Amphispiza belli cinerea** TOWNSEND.

Gray Sage Sparrow.

Amphispiza belli cinerea TOWNSEND, Pr. U. S. Nat. Mus. XIII, 1890, 136.

[B—, C—, R—, C—.]

HAB. Lower California.

582 h. **Melospiza fasciata graminea** TOWNSEND.

Santa Barbara Song Sparrow.

Melospiza fasciata graminea TOWNSEND, Pr. U. S. Nat. Mus., XIII, 1890, 139.

[B—, C—, R—, C—.]

HAB. Santa Barbara Island, California.

582 i. **Melospiza fasciata clementæ** TOWNSEND.

San Clemente Song Sparrow.

Melospiza fasciata clementæ TOWNSEND, Pr. U. S. Nat. Mus., XIII, 1890, 139.

[B—, C—, R—, C—.]

HAB. San Clemente and Santa Rosa Islands, California.

[612.1] **Petrochelidon fulva** (VIEILL.).

Cuban Cliff Swallow.

Hirundo fulva Vieill. Ois. Am. Sept. I, 1807, 62, pl. 30.

Petrochelidon fulva Cab. Mus. Hein. I, 1850, 47.

[B—, C—, R—, C—.]

HAB. Greater Antilles and coast of Central America. Accidental in the Dry Tortugas, Florida. (Cf. SCOTT, Auk, VII, July, 1890, 264.)

GENUS CALLICHELIDON BRYANT.

Callichelidon BRYANT, MS., BAIRD, Rev. Am. Bds. I, 1865, 303. Type, *Hirundo cyaneoviridis* BRYANT.

[615.1] **Callichelidon cyaneoviridis BRYANT.****Bahaman Swallow.**

Hirundo cyaneoviridis BRYANT, Pr. Boston Soc. Nat. Hist., VII, 1859, 111.

Callichelidon cyaneoviridis BRYANT, MS., BAIRD, Rev. Am. Birds, I, 1865, 303.

[B—, C—, R—, C—.]

HAB. Bahamas. Accidental in the Dry Tortugas, Florida. (Cf. SCOTT, Auk, VII, July, 1890, 265.)

646 b. **Helminthophila celata sordida TOWNSEND.****Dusky Warbler.**

Helminthophila celata sordida TOWNSEND, Pr. U. S. Nat. Mus. XIII, 1890, 139.

[B—, C—, R—, C—.]

HAB. San Clemente, Santa Cruz, and Santa Rosa Islands, California.

727 b. **Sitta carolinensis atkinsi SCOTT.****Florida White-breasted Nuthatch.**

Sitta carolinensis atkinsi SCOTT, Auk, VII, April, 1890, 118.

[B 277, part, C 38, part, R 51, part, C 57, part.]

HAB. Florida.

II. ELIMINATIONS.

- 435.
- Trochilus heloisa**
- (LESS. & DELATT.).

Heloise's Hummingbird.

This species was introduced into the North American fauna on the basis of an immature specimen of *Trochilus calliope* Gould, wrongly identified as *T. heloisa*. (Cf. RIDGWAY, Auk, VIII, Jan. 1891, 115.)

III. CHANGES OF NOMENCLATURE.

- 338.
- Buteo harlani**
- (AUD.). This becomes

- 337
- d.*
- Buteo borealis harlani**
- (AUD.).

(Cf. RIDGWAY, Auk, VII, April, 1890, p. 205.)

- [361.]
- Falco sparverioides**
- VIG. This becomes

Falco dominicensis GM.*Falco dominicensis* GM. Syst. Nat. I, 1788, 288.

(Cf. RIDGWAY, Auk, VIII, Jan. 1891, 113.)

4. **Xema** (**Creagrus**) **furcata** (NEB.). (Hypothetical List, p. 350.) This becomes **Creagrus furcatus** (NEB.), *Creagrus* being raised to generic rank. (Cf. RIDGWAY, Pr. U. S. Nat. Mus. XII, 1889, 117.) Hence:

GENUS **CREAGRUS** BON.

Creagrus BON. Naumannia, 1854, 211. Type, *Larus furcatus* NEBOUX.

- 4.
- Creagrus furcatus**
- (NEB.).

Larus furcatus NEB. Voy. 'Venus,' Atlas, pl. 10 (1846).*Creagrus furcatus* BON. Naumannia, 1854, 213.

IV. FORMS CONSIDERED AS NOT ENTITLED TO RECOGNITION.

Melanerpes formicivorus aculeatus MEARNES, Auk, VII, July, 1890, 249.

Rejected on the ground that the alleged characters are too slight and inconstant.

Otocoris alpestris insularis TOWNSEND, Pr. U. S. Nat. Mus. XIII, 1890, 140.

Rejected on the ground of the insufficiency of the alleged characters.

V. PROPOSED CHANGES OF NOMENCLATURE REJECTED.

407. *Melanerpes formicivorus bairdi* RIDGW., vs. *M. f. melanopogon* TEMM. (Cf. HARGITT, Cat. Bds. Brit. Mus. XVIII, 1890, 151.)

Melanopogon was considered a synonym of *formicivorus* proper.

460. *Contopus pertinax* CAB., vs. *Contopus musicus* (SWAIN.). (Cf. SALVIN and GODMAN, Biol. Centr.-Am. Aves, II, 1889, 81.)

Tyrannula musica SWAIN. was considered indeterminable.

VI. ACTION DEFERRED FROM LACK OF MATERIAL.

Final decision on the following was deferred, owing to absence of material necessary to enable the Committee to pass judgment upon the questions involved.

216 a. *Porzana jamaicensis coturniculus*, BAIRD, vs. *Porzana coturniculus*. (Cf. RIDGWAY, Pr. U.S. Nat. Mus. XIII, 1890, 309-311)

Meleagris gallopavo osceola SCOTT, Auk, VII, Oct. 1890, 376.

Ictinia plumbea (GM.).— Cf. CAHOON, O. & O. XV, March, 1890, 35.

Spinus tristis pallidus MEARNs, Auk, VII, July, 1890, 244.

Vireo vicinior californicus STEPHENS, Auk, VII, April, 1890, 159.

VII. SPECIES ENTERED IN THE CHECK-LIST AS ACCIDENTAL, BUT NOW CONSIDERED AS OF REGULAR OCCURRENCE.

[344.] **Buteo brachyurus** VIEILL.—Brackets to be removed, the bird being now known to be a resident species in Florida.

[623.] **Vireo altiloquus barbatulus** (CAB.).—Brackets to be removed, the species being now known as a regular visitor to the Florida Keys, where it breeds.

[737.] **Parus meridionalis** SCL. — Brackets to be removed, its breeding range being now known to include portions of southern Arizona.

RECENT LITERATURE.

Sharpe's Catalogue of the Sturniformes.*—The present volume completes the descriptions of the Acromyodian Passeres. It treats of the Wood-Swallows (Artamidae), the Starlings (Sturnidae), the Weaver-birds (Ploceidae), and the Larks (Alaudidae), and also the Brush-birds (Atrichidae), and Lyre-birds (Menuridae). These are all Old World groups, the Larks only being represented in the New World by the single genus *Otocoris*. The number of species and subspecies treated is 601, represented by 11,699 specimens, only 58 species, or about ten per cent. of the whole, being unrepresented in the British Museum collection.

Respecting the classification, which brings these families into such unusual juxtaposition, Mr. Sharpe observes: "The classification adopted in the third volume of the present work for the arrangement of the Passeriformes was principally that of Mr. Wallace (Ibis, 1874, p. 409), with certain modifications. During the sixteen years which have elapsed since Mr. Wallace propounded his idea of an arrangement of the Passeres, we have learned that the classification adopted in 1877 is somewhat arti-

*Catalogue of the | Passeriformes, | or | Perching Birds, | in the | Collection | of the | British Museum. | — | Sturniformes, | containing the Families | Artamidae, | Sturnidae, | Ploceidae, | Alaudidae. | Also the families | Atrichidae and Menuridae. | By | R. Bowdler Sharpe. | London: | Printed by order of the Trustees. | Sold by | Longmans & Co., 39 Paternoster Row; | B. Quaritch, 15 Piccadilly; Asher & Co., 13 Bedford Street, Covent Garden; | Kegan Paul, Trench, Trübner & Co., 57 Ludgate Hill; | and at the | British Museum (Natural History), Cromwell Road, S. W. | 1890.—8vo, pp xvi + 702, pl. xv. = Catalogue of the Birds in the British Museum, Vol. XIII.